

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 9 (Currently amended): Process for the remelting of glass bars, ~~with the following features comprising the following steps:~~

~~introducing~~ a glass bar ~~is introduced~~ into the an upper end of a receiving shell;
~~providing a molten bath having a surface~~ underneath the receiving shell ~~there is made available a molten bath with a surface;~~

~~positioning~~ the receiving shell ~~is positioned in~~ such ~~manner~~ that its a lower edge ~~of the receiving shell~~ is located at the height of the surface or above it;

~~the heating~~ a lower end of the glass bar ~~is heated~~ to a temperature above ~~the a~~ softening temperature of the glass, resulting in a melt-off process at the lower end of the glass bar to produce a melt stream;

~~controlling~~ the melt-off process ~~is controlled in~~ such ~~manner~~ that ~~a continuous~~ the melt stream continuously enters the molten bath proximate the surface with avoidance of a constriction; and

drawing off melt ~~is drawn off~~ from the molten bath by means of an arrangement for drop generation.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): Process according to claim 9, further comprising a crucible unit in which the receiving shell is disposed, characterized in that the ~~melting-off~~ melt-off process of the glass bar is performed by ~~the one of~~ coupling of electric energy into the crucible unit, ~~or by~~ radiation heating elements, ~~or by~~ and burner heating.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): Process according to claim 9, characterized in that the ~~glass throughput~~ amount of the glass melt-off is controlled by ~~the means that~~ altering at least one of the following parameters ~~is altered~~:

~~by adjusting~~ the amount of ~~the supplied~~ energy supplied to the heating of the molten bath;

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by varying the spacing between the ~~under~~ lower edge of the receiving shell and the liquid surface of the molten bath; and
by ~~a~~ choking of the glass stream emerging from the bath.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): Process according to claim 9, characterized in that each of the glass bars used have in each case at least one end which closes off with includes and end surface shaped as one of a convex form or with and a flat surface, in order to avoid an inclusion of gas at the bar-to-bar impact point in between the end surfaces of adjacent glass bars.